

Tree Country

April 2017



the employee
newsletter of the
**South Carolina
Forestry Commission**

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from the desk of
STATE FORESTER
Gene Kodama

Good day,
We are only about two weeks into spring, which started March 20, but the weather has been spring-like since January. Of course, the traditional March cold snap had to occur and was particularly intense this year, damaging many crops. This week we were under a warning for intense thunderstorms, lightning, hail, and tornadoes to the extent that some state and county offices and schools have closed early. Our April 6 Commissioners' meeting also had to be postponed.

On the positive side, the rain covering most of the state should lessen wildfire activity, which has also been at much higher levels than in recent years. So, hang on to your hats. Spring and its weather fluctuations are here and will be for a while longer.

The General Assembly has also been very active, as has our participation in the legislative process. We have been to the State House or nearby on several events to represent the Commission, communicating regularly

with legislators on a variety of issues. We made our annual presentation to the Senate Fish, Game, and Forestry Committee and had good interest from and interaction with its members.

We have also been attending meetings that involve the agency's budget proposal, H.3719, to revise the State Forester's Burning Ban, and efforts to recover the equipment funding the Commission lost when Act 271 became Act 273 last year.



On April 26, the agency has planned a Forestry Day at the State House celebrating the agency's 90th anniversary. The announcement of the new forestry economic impact number will be revealed and a commemorative tree planting ceremony is planned.

We did receive some very good news last week when the Senate Finance Committee reinstated most of the recurring funding to the agency's budget that the House had removed during its budget deliberations; the Senate also added significant non-recurring equipment funds. The full Senate is now debating the budget. Hopefully the Finance Committee's funding recommendation will hold or be improved by the full Senate.

On another front, planning is underway for the Commission's "Forestry Day" on the State House grounds April 26. The agency's 90th anniversary will be celebrated with proclamations and resolutions from the governor's office and the General Assembly that



On the Cover

The cover photo is the demonstration area of second generation coastal loblolly at Niederhof Forestry Center. It was taken with the agency's sUAS (drone).



State Forester Gene Kodama and others have been to the State House or nearby several times recently to represent the Commission and communicate regularly with Legislative members on a variety of issues.

recognize the agency for its service. In addition to holding a press conference that morning to unveil newly released data showing forestry's sizable economic impact to the state, we will also be having a commemorative tree-planting ceremony.

The Forestry Commission continues to play a key role in keeping forestry a top industry in the state while taking good care of the environment and protecting its forest resources, citizens, and property. All of our employees,

their families, and our partners should be proud of those achievements.

Best regards,



2017 U.S. Wildfire Season Off to an Intense Start

Wildfires have consumed more than 2 million acres of U.S. land so far this year, nearly 10 times the long-term average and a punishing start to this year's wildfire season.

South Carolina has now exceeded its 5- and 10-year annual average of wildfires and is now at 1,780 fires. The 5- and 10-year annual average acreage was already greatly exceeded due to the Pinnacle Fire's 10,623 acres and is now at 24,162 acres. Fire activity is rebounding from the past two years of record low numbers. Let's be ready, and let's be safe! <http://e360.yale.edu/digest/2017-wildfire-season-off-to-an-intense-start>

Employee News

New Employees

We would like to welcome several new employees to the agency. Please introduce yourself when you see them.

Bill Young is the new Forestry Technician in the Georgetown Sector. Bill began in March and lives in Georgetown. He attended McColl High School and worked for International Paper before joining the agency.

Beth Foley has been named the new Environmental Education Assistant Coordinator. Beth started March 2 and works out of the Harbison State Forest Environmental Education Center. She lives in Columbia with her husband, three cats and one dog, and graduated from the University of Georgia in Athens. Beth has previously performed wildlife field work on bats, red-cockaded woodpeckers and bobwhite quail, and was most recently a park ranger for the City of Columbia. Beth enjoys mountain biking, backpacking, and painting.

Jacob Goodnough is the new Project Forester for Darlington, Lee and Marlboro counties. Jacob started March 2 and works out of the Florence office. He lives in Hartsville and attended Clemson University. His previous experience included timber buying.

David Morrow has been named the new Communication Coordinator for the Piedmont region. David started March 17 and will work out of Newberry. He lives in Union and has a bachelor's degree in computer science and business administration from Limestone College and a two-year degree in criminal justice from Spartanburg Methodist. David was previously the IT Director at Haemonetics Corporation. In his spare time he enjoys hunting, fishing, and kayaking.

Welcome **Victoria G. O'Cain** as the agency's new Procurement Manager as of March 17. Victoria is from Chapin and attended Hunter Kinard High School and Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College. She was previously a captain with the civil air patrol and worked the Choo Choo at the Jamil Temple. Victoria's hobbies include crafting, party planning, reading, and watching movies. She also enjoys kayaking and watching Clemson football.

Personnel News

Philip Palmer, Trades Specialist at Manchester State Forest, transferred March 17 to the same position at Harbison State Forest.

Edgefield/McCormick/Saluda Sector Forest Technician **David Camp** resigned effective March 24.

Coastal Dispatcher **Paige Garriss** resigned from her position effective March 30.

Coastal FIA Forester **Caity Homan** resigned from her position effective March 31.

Abbeville/Greenwood/Laurens Sector Forest Technician **Cody Quinn** resigned effective April 1.

Retiree News

Retired Piedmont Communications Manager **Harold Kinley**, 72, passed away March 25. Harold worked for the Forestry Commission for 32 years after joining the agency in 1971. He was an expert in the field of radio communications.



Bill Young



Beth Foley



Jacob Goodnough



David Morrow



Victoria O'Cain

CAUGHT ON CAMERA



Equipment Maintenance Manager Rufus Roberts checks out the latest CAT dozers added to the firefighting arsenal March 7.



Coastal Forestry Technicians Jon Berry, Lowell Parnell, and Scotty Harrington listen to the CAT personnel before they get their new enclosed-cab dozers March 7 at the Columbia Shop.



Allendale/Hampton/Jasper Sector Forestry Technician Lowell Parnell wasn't the only one excited to get new equipment. His children Carter and Morgan love big trucks and were very excited to check out the shiny equipment when Lowell arrived home. They are just as proud as Lowell.



State Forester Gene Kodama has been salvaging some of the trees toppled by Hurricane Matthew on his Walnut Bluff Tree Farm in Berkeley County.

Help Needed for Upcoming Woodland Clinic

The annual Woodland Clinic will be held **April 25**, with April 27 as a rain date, at the Connie Maxwell Oasis Farm in Greenwood. They need volunteers to help run the event. Personnel from the Piedmont Region and Columbia office, retirees, and commissioners are urged to assist if they can (with their supervisor's approval). Volunteers should contact retiree Jimmy Walters at (864) 992-0252 (phone or text) or by email at jimmy.3t@gmail.com. He can also provide directions and more details.

The format will be a round robin competition with four events (compass and pacing, tree measurement, tree and forest pest ID, and forestry tools and equipment). The Lumberjack Race will wrap up the competition before a hamburger and hot dog lunch. Awards are presented after the meal.

The address for the Connie Maxwell farm is 50 Jenkins Springs Road, Greenwood, SC 29646.

Physical Fitness Walks Scheduled

The moderate-level physical fitness walks have been scheduled. Any fireline employee (or those wanting to become fireline-qualified) will need to participate in one of the following walks. Those who just passed the arduous-level walk, turned in a medical exemption, or who walked to be hired within the past three months do not need to walk. All employees must be medically cleared before walking. All walks start at 9 a.m. Note that there is no walk in Newberry this year.

Remaining Walks

April 10- Greenwood

April 11- Barnwell

April 12- Walterboro

April 13- Orangeburg

April 18- Columbia

Wood Magic Forest Fair Changes & Dates Announced

Wood Magic Forest Fair (WMFF) is being updated this year (with the help of an SFI grant) and will now be a 5th-grade program. WMFF will be held at these locations in 2017:

- SC Botanical Garden, Clemson—Sept. 19-22, 2017
- Harbison State Forest, Columbia—Oct. 16-20, 2017
- Sewee Environmental Education Center, Awendaw—Nov. 14-17, 2017

Thank you to all the SCFC staff and volunteers who helped make 2016 WMFF a huge success despite Hurricane Matthew and the Pinnacle Mountain Fire getting in the way of things. In 2016, almost 1,500 students attended WMFF across the three locations. To date, the WMFF message of the importance of forestry and the wise use of our natural resources has reached nearly 33,000 students in our state. Please visit <http://www.state.sc.us/forest/16wm.pdf> to read the 2016 WMFF annual report.

Project Learning Tree Update

2016 was another successful year for Project Learning Tree! In 2016, 19 workshops were conducted with 308 participants. With some workshops covering more than one module, a total of 361 copies of the Project Learning Tree modules were distributed at these workshops. For a complete report from 2016, please read the 2016 PLT annual report at <http://www.state.sc.us/forest/plt2016report.pdf>.

Programs

Spring Wood Magic Offered to Classes Canceled by Hurricane Matthew

On March 8 at Harbison State Forest, students and adults from Heritage Christian Academy in Lexington got to experience the Wood Magic Forest Fair program. Last October, three days of Wood Magic had to be canceled because of Hurricane Matthew response efforts. Many schools scheduled to participate were unable to attend. All schools were offered the chance to come back to Harbison State Forest this spring for a “Wood Magic-like” experience...and Heritage Christian took us up on the offer!

There wasn't a popcorn snack break or a sawmill station, but students were still treated to the same jokes during the magic show and the delicious pizza from Little Caesar's! In addition to all the other regular learning stations, students were led on a forest hike to learn how forest professionals manage working forests. Big thanks to SCFC personnel who helped out on the day, including Jonathan Calore, Trip Miller, Justin Holt, David Jenkins, Lisa Hart, Russell Hubright, Beth Foley, Matt Schnabel, and Doug Wood.



Assistant Law Enforcement Chief Jonathan Calore and Harbison State Forest Director Trip Miller demonstrate how to properly burn the woods.



Forest Health Coordinator David Jenkins and Communication and Public Information Director Doug Wood teach the kids how to make paper.



Environmental Education Coordinator Matt Schnabel and Forest Management Chief Russell Hubright entertain the students during the magic show.

Education

- Matt Schnabel



Assistant Environmental Education Coordinator Beth Foley assists the children with making paper.

First-time Hunters Harvest Gobblers on Turkey Hunt

Niederhof Forestry Center (NFC) hosted a military appreciation youth turkey hunt March 18. Three hunters from the SC National Guard youth program participated in the hunt which harvested two birds for first-time turkey hunters.

The two-day event was sponsored by the SC State Chapter of the NWTF, which provided meals for the hunters. The event started Friday, March 17 with an orientation and safety briefing before the children patterned their guns on the range. A turkey hunting overview and hunting guidelines were given, followed by a meal of pulled pork sandwiches. Dawn Stuckey, 4-H Agent for Hampton and Colleton County, presented the hunters with a 4-H gift bag and information on 4-H programs for military youth.

Saturday started early with a safety briefing at 6 a.m. The hunters and their guides soon departed for the hunt. Guiding on the hunt were State Forester Gene Kodama, Reforestation/Stewardship Coordinator Scott Phillips, and Edisto Unit Forester Pete Stuckey.

All three hunters had never been turkey hunting before and were very excited. Two hunters harvested their first gobblers.

This is the first turkey hunt of the season for NFC. There will be two more turkey hunts this year.



It didn't take Leanna Bowling long to get her first gobbler on her first turkey hunt with guide and mentor Gene Kodama.



Rookie turkey hunter Jason Johnson harvested his first gobbler with guide Pete Stuckey.



Ferris Blackwell receives instructions from Scott Phillips on how to hold and shoot the gun at the target.



State Forester Gene Kodama explains how he lined up his decoys to attract the gobblers.



Never having hunted before, Ferris was excited to hit the target perfectly.

Programs

PLT Program Educates the Educators

Chanda Cooper, the 2016 Jerry L. Shrum SC PLT Outstanding Educator of the Year, recently held a PLT workshop for pre-service educators.

The Richland Soil and Water Conservation District partnered with the USC College of Education to host a Project Learning Tree PreK-8 curriculum workshop for pre-service educators as well as formal and informal educators Saturday, Feb. 18. Attendees were introduced to the curriculum by participating in several PLT activities, including Birds and Worms, Tree Factory, and Tree Cookies. The interdisciplinary, hands-on nature of PLT made six hours of instruction pass in a flash, and participants received the PLT guide with its assessment opportunities and helpful indexes and appendices with great enthusiasm. "This was SO much fun," one participant wrote. "The book was AMAZING!"



Educators keep score in the Birds and Worms activity.

Education

- Matt Schnabel



Tree cookies are always a hit.



Attendees participate in the Tree Factory activity where they are different parts of a tree.

Did You Know?

Tea tree oil is a natural fungicide that can be used as an all-purpose cleaner. Add it to the water tank of your humidifier to keep the water fresh. A small amount of tea tree oil added to each load in your washing machine kills germs and leaves laundry smelling clean and fresh.

Around the state



Black River Unit personnel, including Williamsburg Sector Supervisor Terry Cook and Horry/Marion Project Forester GraceAnna Schilz, conduct a prescribed burn at Hobcaw Barony in Georgetown.



Georgetown Sector Supervisor James Hall and Georgetown/Williamsburg Project Forester Wes Brunson are ready to go.



The crew burned over 450 acres.



Lynches River Unit personnel fought a 125-acre wildfire in Sumter County March 1.

Williamsburg Sector Forestry Technician Bran Tisdale, Dillon/Florence Project Forester Chet Foyle, Georgetown Forestry Technicians Jonathan York and Brad Jones, with Black River Unit Forester Ron Holt rest after a long day of burning. Also assisting but not pictured were Forestry Technicians Glenn Porter, Justin Johnson, Jay Woodard, and Bobby Watts.



A dozer makes a firebreak around a Colleton County wildfire in March.

South Carolina is having a more active fire season after a couple of years of record low fire occurrence. In fact, fire activity is high across the South. The Forestry Commission sent a dozer with two operators and one Type 6 engine with two operators to assist with wildfires in Oklahoma.



Personnel fought a 118-acre nighttime wildfire in McCormick County March 11.

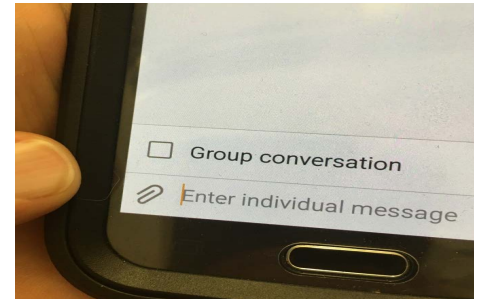
Red Flag Fire Alerts in March

Fire activity has picked up in the state due to weather conditions and drought. The agency issued two Red Flag Fire Alerts in consecutive weekends the first half of March in anticipation of elevated fire danger associated with higher-than-normal wind gusts and very low relative humidity across the state. The first alert was issued Friday, March 3 and was in effect until the following Monday morning; the second was issued Friday, March 10 and lifted the next Sunday.



Group Text Issue with Galaxy Smartphones

Please be aware that sending a group text message (one to more than one person) on the new Samsung Galaxy smartphones is not as straightforward as it may seem. When sending a text to multiple people, make sure to **uncheck** the “Group conversation” box at the bottom of the screen (as shown in the photo at right). While this seems counterintuitive, unchecking this box will ensure that all intended addressees receive the message.



Cattle Creek Campground Fire and Fundraiser

Cattle Creek Campground in Orangeburg County was partially destroyed by a large fire March 10. Several of the rough-hewn cabins, called “tents,” were lost in the fire, to which several Forestry Commission personnel were dispatched. Cattle Creek Camp Meeting is a Methodist tradition that was established in 1786 and was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. It is a place where many people go to worship and enjoy fellowship, among them Forestry Commission employee Kyle Griffith, who is a Calhoun/Orangeburg Sector forestry technician, and owner of one of the “tents” that were destroyed.

Residents have set up a GoFundMe account to raise money for the rebuilding effort; please visit the following website to make a donation: <https://www.gofundme.com/restore-cattle-creek-campground>.



Fire personnel try to save the buildings.



Wildfire engulfs the wooden cabins.



The church remains after the wildfire.



Some of the Cattle Creek tents before the fire destroyed them. The church was spared.



AROUND THE STATE

SCFC Receives Notable Document Award

The Forestry Commission recently won – for the second year in a row – one of the South Carolina State Library’s (SCSL) 10 Notable State Document Awards for 2016. The award-winning publication, *India: Market Profile*, was authored by Marketing Specialist Edgar Arias and published by the Resource Development Division in February 2016.

This report summarizes a study conducted by Arias on the Indian market during the second half of 2015 and is intended to help the U.S. Southern states’ forest products sector (producers, manufacturers, traders and policy-makers) in examining and preparing for the opportunities this market may offer, by providing them with detailed information on India’s economics, wood fiber network, trade flows and international contacts.

The Notable Documents Awards recognize state governmental publications of outstanding merit and usefulness to the citizens of South



SCSL Acting Director Leesa Aiken presents the Notable State Document Award to Marketing Specialist Edgar Arias.

Carolina. In the award letter, SCSL Acting Director Leesa Aiken wrote that the awards “focus on the value of information compiled and produced by state government agencies and to

emphasize the importance of open and equal access to this information.”

Arias attended the State Library’s annual Notable State Documents recognition ceremony Friday, March 17 to accept

Calore Explains Red Flag and Fire Safety to Media

Amid an unusually active few days of wildfires across the state, SCFC Assistant Law Enforcement Chief Jonathan Calore did two TV interviews March 9 and 10 explaining the agency’s Red Flag Fire Alert and the importance of fire safety. Jonathan demonstrated two debris burns for WACH Fox 57 and WOLO-25, walking the audience through the notification process and showing them the proper precautions to be taken when conducting an outdoor burn.



Ben Kendall Graduates Law Enforcement Academy

Congratulations to Manchester State Forest Assistant Director Ben Kendall for graduating from the Law Enforcement Academy March 24. Ben was sworn in as a Forestry Commission law enforcement officer March 30. Congratulations, Ben!

Supporting Ben at his graduation were Manchester State Forest Director James Douglas, Abbeville/Greenwood/Laurens Supervisor Dale Curry, Law Enforcement Chief Tommy Mills, Protection Chief Darryl Jones, MSF Forest Technician Ken McInnis, and MSF Forest Technician/LE Officer Steve Ward.



SCFC Receives South Carolina Safety Award



Training & Safety Coordinator Leslie Woodham and Human Resources Manager Erica Brazile accepted the South Carolina Chamber's Commendation of Excellence award on behalf of the agency.

The South Carolina Forestry Commission was awarded a South Carolina Chamber of Commerce annual Commendation of Excellence award. The Safety Awards Luncheon to honor South Carolina's organizations with top safety records took place Thursday, March 30 at the Marriott in downtown Columbia.

Please take this opportunity to thank our safety managers and employees who work so hard to keep our workplaces safe.

LOGGING AND THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Some of the ways in which we describe timber harvesting go back over a 100 years. Since then, meanings for some of the words have been lost. (Part 5 of 9)

Forestry is filled with terms that are sometimes misused but fun to learn about. It's part of the jargon that all professions must deal with. Even a seemingly common measurement can be ambiguous. Take diameter, for instance. Is it the diameter at 4.5 feet (standard) or diameter at stump height? There can be a significant difference in a logging contract.

Asking people to define their terms is a good idea. Words sometimes do matter. Clarity in conversation, and especially in contracts, can go a long way to avoid misunderstanding. In some cases, this clarity can mean the difference between thousands of dollars or the quality of forest health and vigor. Yet another good reason to hire a professional forester to help manage woodlands. http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/logging_and_the_english_language

"Northern hardwoods" is actually a rather poor label for a distinct forest type. It's not just "hardwoods that grow in the north." There are particular associations of tree species that makeup a northern hardwood stand, dominated by sugar maple.

Programs

Ips Engraver Beetle Outbreak in McCormick and Abbeville Counties

Ips engraver beetles are normally secondary pests that knock out a group of a dozen trees and then disappear, but that is not the case this year.

We have had two hot, dry summers in a row, and Ips engraver beetles are taking advantage of stressed trees, especially on poor or overstocked sites, and beetle spots up to 60 or more trees have been reported in Georgia and western South Carolina.

Many of the spots that are developing now were on sites that were thinned last summer. Downed timber, slash, and trees wounded in harvesting/thinning operations are very attractive to Ips, and they can build up populations in slash left behind or in wounded trees. These populations can then move into adjacent trees.

The first signs are a chlorotic, or yellowing crown. Pitch tubes may form, but in drought conditions the tree may not have enough sap to form the exudate. Also, beetles may attack higher in the crown and signs may be difficult to detect. Trees that have been infested will have the distinctive “H” or “Y” shaped galleries, although the galleries of Ips avulsus, which can breed in smaller diameter limbs and branches, are superficially similar to those of southern pine beetles.

We advise landowners to monitor their stands and adjacent land for Ips spots, especially those in McCormick and Abbeville Counties. Avoid activities that can stress trees, including prescribed burns or thinning operations, as these can exacerbate Ips populations. If you must thin, practice good site sanitation, removing all slash or piling it up in a focus point at the logging deck. Unlike southern pine beetles, which cannot breed in downed logs, Ips can and will take advantage of any material left at the site.



Pine trees killed by Ips engraver beetles in McCormick County, SC.



Ips avulsus adult. Photo by JR Baker and SB Bambara, North Carolina State University, Bugwood.org



A beetle that was overwhelmed by the pitch.



Big Ips arriving at a freshly cut pine in an Ips-infested stand.



A stand that is infested with Ips being cleared. Notice that the tree to the right is slightly chlorotic (yellow). It is in the very early stages of infestation by Ips.

If you have questions please contact the South Carolina Forest Health section at djenkins@scfc.gov or (803) 667 1002.

Forest Health

- David Jenkins

Programs

Developing New Markets for our Forest Products: Costa Rica

One of the main goals of the agency's marketing program in 2016 is to find and develop new markets for our state's forest products. The Central American region has observed significant increases in population, tourism and deforestation, which together are driving a greater need for imported forest products. However, the United States' share of this market is relatively low, and work is yet to be done to explore its potential and promote our products. To make this happen, Marketing Specialist Edgar Arias traveled to his home country Costa Rica in February to capitalize on his familiarity with the region's main market. In preparation for the trip, he met beforehand with the S.C. Dept. of Commerce to better understand opportunities to finance an eventual trade mission to learn more about the domestic forestry resource and wood products market in general.

Once in the country, Arias held a series of meetings with distributors of construction materials, builders, architects, trade associations and representatives from academia. The agenda also included a visit to the country's main construction trade show, 2017 Construction and Housing Expo, and a seminar on wood panels organized by the American Plywood Association (APA), which gathered procurement specialists and managers interested in learning more about panel products manufactured in the U.S., their applications on construction and furniture, and the educational services offered by the association.

Having the opportunity to talk to wood buyers, architects, builders and academics will help the marketing program develop a more precise profile of the Costa Rican market, its main



Edgar also took this photo of a student-led wooden housing construction project for a low-income family.



On his trip to Costa Rica, Edgar Arias saw this traditional wooden ox cart, which was used to haul coffee up to the mid-19th century.



players, challenges and opportunities. With this information at hand, the marketing program is working in connecting local firms with potential buyers from Costa Rica and planning a trade mission this year.

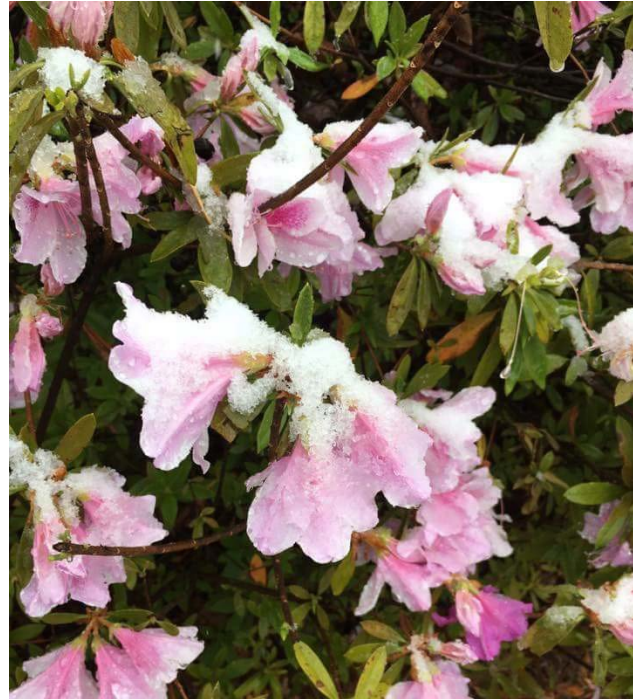
Forest Resource

-Edgar Arias

Weather Continues to Seesaw



Our weather has fluctuated from really warm to freezing cold with snow in a matter of days this past month. The warm weather over several days made trees and flowers bloom early, and then the state was hit by a hard freeze, with most of the state receiving snow March 12. Above, cold weather heavily damaged the peach crops in the state. Azaleas, right, will also suffer from the cold.



The unseasonably warm weather in February and March allowed an unusually early start to the growing season in South Carolina. Peaches, strawberries and blueberries were well ahead of schedule and azaleas and dogwoods had already bloomed in many areas. Hard freezes across the state have left these crops and plants devastated. Plants can also be damaged when unseasonably warm weather during winter or early spring stimulates the production of new growth. Cold snaps can be very damaging to this tender foliage. Some damage may not be evident until months later. Brown tips, reduced flowering, splitting stems or bark and frost cracks are some of the types of damage that trees can suffer from the abrupt temperature changes.

Snow Blankets HQ in March



Adding to the crazy weather this year, Columbia received a late snowfall Sunday, March 12. Preceded by heavy rain, the snow didn't stick around for long, but it did make for some unique shots of the headquarters.

16 Invasive Species Sold at Garden Centers You Should Never Buy

Most people assume that the people that run local garden center are knowledgeable and know exactly what they're selling - and for the most part, that's true. But what happens when some of the most commonly sold plants also happen to be some of the most invasive?

Due to the globalization of our society, it's become very easy to get plants from different areas of the world, grow them, and sell them to gardeners everywhere. Here's a list of 16 of the most commonly sold invasive species. Watch out for them next time you're browsing for a new plant for the yard! (<http://www.epicgardening.com/invasive-species-sold-at-garden-centers>)

Wisteria sinensis (Chinese wisteria)

It was introduced from China to Europe and North America in 1816 and has secured a place as one of the most popular flowering vines for home gardens due to its flowering habit. It has however become an invasive species in some areas of the eastern United States where the climate closely matches that of China. It can displace native species. Sizable trees have been killed by vining wisteria. When these large trees are killed, it opens the forest floor to sunlight, which allows seedlings to grow and flourish.

Phyllostachys spp. (Bamboo)

Bamboo, which technically is a giant grass, is one of the world's most invasive plants. Once established, it is literally next to impossible to control. The sprouts that shoot up from the ground each spring can grow 12 inches a day! The underground roots of common running "fishpole" bamboo, which can easily reach 15 feet tall, can travel as far as 20 feet or more from the original clump. There's no denying bamboo makes a pretty exotic screen. And with its slender form, it is seemingly ideal for tight urban spaces. Yet, in no time new shoots will appear outside its planting space, creating a maintenance nightmare.

Euonymus fortunei (Winter creeper/Creeping euonymus)

This shade tolerant plant forms in dense mats, depriving native species of space and sunlight. Winter creeper will also deplete soil nutrients and moisture from nearby plants, making growth and regeneration harder on the native species. The invasive plant colonizes by vine growth and its pink-capsulated seeds spread by birds, small mammals, and water. If allowed to grow out of hand, the vine will spread over anything in its way, even overtopping trees. The winter creeper's rapid growth, evergreen nature and tolerance of harsh conditions allowed it to easily escape cultivation and quickly spread to forests in every county of the state.

Hedera helix (English ivy)

English ivy is a vigorous growing vine that impacts all levels of disturbed and undisturbed forested areas, growing both as a ground cover and a climbing vine. As the ivy climbs in search of increased light, it engulfs and kills branches by blocking light from reaching the host tree's leaves. Branch dieback proceeds from the lower to upper branches, often leaving the tree with just a small green "broccoli head." The host tree eventually succumbs entirely from this insidious and steady weakening. In addition, the added weight of the vines makes infested trees much more susceptible to blow-over during high rain and wind events and heavy snowfalls.

Lonicera japonica (Japanese Honeysuckle vine)

In North America, Japanese honeysuckle has few natural enemies which allows it to spread widely and out-compete native plant species. Its evergreen to semi-evergreen nature gives it an added advantage over native species in many areas. Shrubs and young trees can be killed by girdling when vines twist tightly around stems and trunks, cutting off the flow of water through the plant. Dense growths of honeysuckle covering vegetation can gradually kill plants by blocking sunlight from reaching their leaves. Vigorous root competition also helps Japanese honeysuckle spread and displace neighboring native vegetation.

Euonymus alatus (Winged Burning Bush)

It threatens a variety of habitats including forests, coastal scrublands and prairies where it forms dense thickets, displacing many native woody and herbaceous plant species. Hundreds of seedlings are often found below the parent plant in what is termed a "seed shadow."



16

**INVASIVE SPECIES
SOLD AT NURSERIES**

EPIC GARDENING



Japanese Honeysuckle

(continued next page)

Nandina domestica (Nandina/Sacred Bamboo)

Nandina has naturalized and invaded habitats. It colonizes by spreading underground root sprouts and by animal-dispersed seeds. It can persist as a seedling for several years before maturing. It can displace native species and disrupt plant communities. Berries are can be toxic to cats and some grazing animals.



Nandina

Ligustrum sinense (Chinese privet)

Privets form dense thickets that shade out and take the place of native shrubs and herbaceous plants. The shady thickets make conditions unsuitable for native seedlings. Phenolic compounds in the leaves protect plants from leaf-feeding insects which include native herbivorous species.

Elaeagnus umbellata (Autumn olive)

It threatens native ecosystems by out-competing and displacing native plant species, creating dense shade and interfering with natural plant succession and nutrient cycling. It can produce up to 200,000 seeds each year, and can spread over a variety of habitats as its nitrogen-fixing root nodules allows the plant to grow in even the most unfavorable soils. Not to mention that it reproduces quickly and with little effort at all.

Pyrus calleryana (Callery/Bradford pear)

The Callery pear is an invasive species in many areas of eastern North America, outcompeting many native plants and trees. In the northeastern United States, wild Callery pears sometimes form extensive, nearly pure stands in old fields, along roadsides, and in similar disturbed areas.



Bradford Pear

Vinca minor (Common periwinkle/Vinca)

Periwinkle grows vigorously and forms dense and extensive mats along the forest floor, displacing native herbaceous and woody plant species.

Berberis thunbergii (Japanese Barberry)

Japanese barberry forms dense stands in natural habitats including canopy forests, open woodlands, wetlands, pastures, and meadows and alters soil pH, nitrogen levels, and biological activity in the soil. Once established, barberry displaces native plants and reduces wildlife habitat and forage. White-tailed deer apparently avoid browsing barberry, preferring to feed on native plants, giving barberry a competitive advantage. In New Jersey, Japanese barberry has been found to raise soil pH (i.e., make it more basic) and reduce the depth of the litter layer in forests.

Paulownia tomentosa (Princess tree/Royal Paulownia)

Princess tree is an aggressive ornamental tree that grows rapidly in disturbed natural areas, including forests, streambanks, and steep rocky slopes. It can survive wildfire because the roots can regenerate new, very fast-growing stems. It is tolerant of pollution and it is not fussy about soil type. All of these characteristics make it a very noxious and opportunistic invasive.

Clematis ternifolia (Sweet autumn clematis)

This species is found invading forest edges, right-of-ways and urban areas along streams and roads. It grows vigorously over other vegetation, forming dense blankets that block sunlight to the plants underneath. In late summer infestations are conspicuous as a result of its abundant showy white flowers.

Eragrostis curvula (Weeping Lovegrass)

The natural fire regime in desert communities has been altered as this species has increased, resulting in more intense wildfires that occur with greater frequency. It is not highly preferred by livestock and wildlife for grazing in comparison to native grasses, which has allowed it to become increasingly dominant in many native plant communities. It establishes quickly, produces high quantities of viable seed during its first season of growth, and can spread at a rate of 175 m/year.



Weeping Lovegrass

Spiraea japonica (Japanese spiraea/Japanese Meadowsweet)

Japanese spiraea can rapidly take over disturbed areas. Growing populations creep into meadows, forest openings, and other sites. Once established, spiraea grows rapidly and forms dense stands that outcompete much of the existing native herbs and shrubs. Seeds of Japanese spiraea last for many years in the soil, making its control and the restoration of native vegetation especially difficult.

Schnabel Surrounded by Forestry on Vacation in Africa

Forestry is everywhere, including in Africa!

While on vacation visiting his brother in Kenya in January, Environmental Education Coordinator Matt Schnabel saw evidence of forestry throughout the country. Matt saw a wide range of forestry practices. Many people live a subsistence lifestyle and use fuel wood and charcoal for heating, cooking, and purifying water. Sawmills were present in almost every town, making rough-cut lumber for home construction. Matt also saw evidence of sustainable forestry practices in areas where tree planting had occurred.



Matt visited the forest of the president of Kenya, Karura Forest, which features a planted variety of eucalyptus, among other species.



A view of a logging job with a skidder, loader, and truck.



A local sawmill in Nairobi also recycles wood products.



Logging trucks look a little different than they do in America, but still protect the cab of the truck.

Paper Used to Create Life

Though paper is one of the most recyclable materials, a couple of companies around the world are reusing paper to actually create new life. In Japan, national daily newspaper The Mianichi Shimbunsha is not only made from 100 percent recycled and vegetable paper, but also it can be planted and watered to grow shrubbery. The newspaper's daily circulation exceeds four million copies, and the initiative has been popular with the public. In Colombia, a company called Lifepack produces paper plates that can also be planted to grow a flower or vegetable garden, the St. Louis-Dispatch reported Jan. 16. The entrepreneurs behind the plantable plate are eyeing a Kickstarter campaign this spring to start production in St. Louis.

<http://www.lifegate.com>



Paper Grows Trees Quite Fast

In North America, it takes less than 2 seconds to grow the fiber needed for a standard #10 envelope (on 100 acres of managed forests).

For many years, International Paper's "Go Paper. Grow Trees." campaign and "Print Grows Trees" operated by the Printing & Graphics Association MidAtlantic have been promoting the vital link between paper/print and the long-term retention of privately-owned forest lands. In short, a strong market for pulp, paper, lumber and other forest products, does grow trees.

In North America we grow many more trees than we harvest. Forest area in the U.S. increased by 5,800 NFL football fields per day between 2007 and 2012, or a total of 14 million acres. In Canada, the forest cover has remained stable over the last two decades and, in recent years, Canada's actual harvest has been 44% of annual growth.

To illustrate the powerful renewable features of well managed North American forests, Two Sides North America calculated how much time it takes to grow some well-known paper products: a standard #10 envelope and a ream of office copy paper (500 sheets). The results may surprise you!

Calculation Methods

It is possible to estimate the time needed to grow wood fiber for certain paper products on a given forest area. The results depend on which tree species are used to make these paper products and the age and growing conditions of the trees. Soil fertility and moisture, drainage conditions and the number of trees per acre all affect tree growth rate. Tree species also vary widely in their wood density: a higher density wood will produce more fiber for the same weight than a low density wood.

The necessary data and fiber growth rate calculations were obtained from the literature for nine tree species used in pulp and paper production and occurring under different growing conditions in the U.S. and Canada. The objective of this exercise was to develop estimates of the time it takes to

grow the wood fiber necessary for the given paper products.

Results

The time required to grow the fiber needed for a #10 envelope is 0.3 to 1.9 seconds per 100 acres of managed North American forest.

The time required to grow the fiber needed for a ream of 500-sheet office paper is 0.3 to 2.2 hours per 100 acres of managed North American forest.

The fastest growth rates were for Loblolly Pine and Hybrid Aspen, and the slowest for Black Spruce, with climate and temperature playing a large role in growth rates.

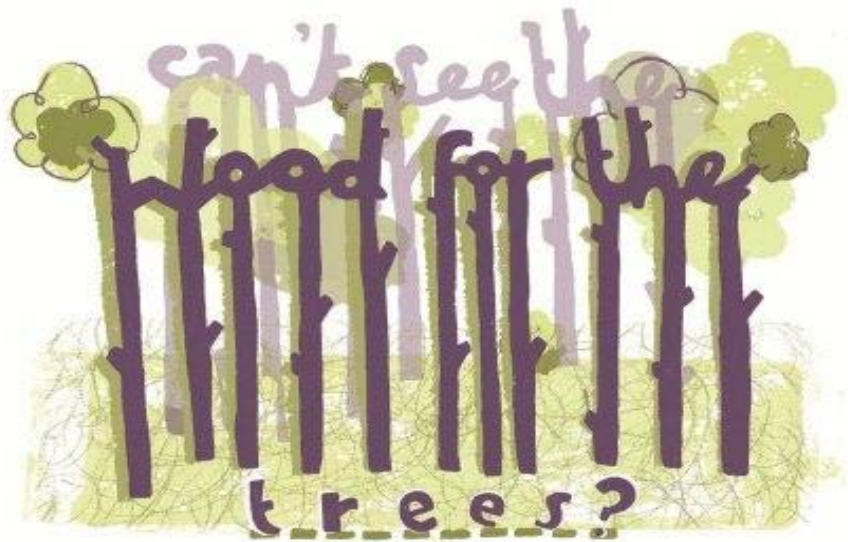
Given the above, a forest land owner or tree farmer who has 100 acres of commercial pulpwood could produce enough wood fiber for the following products, with just the new tree growth achieved in 1 year:

- 15.8 million #10 envelopes, or
- 4,000 reams of copy paper (500 sheets each)

A market for paper products also benefits local communities given that a portion of the income from wood sales is re-injected in local businesses and services.

Conclusion

Given the progress of sustainable forestry in North America, environmental claims related to forest



products such as paper must consider the renewability and growth of well managed forests. In other words, claims such as "go paperless – go green" or "save trees" mislead consumers into believing that paper is a cause of deforestation (permanent forest loss) when it clearly is not. Well managed forests provide a multitude of environmental, social and economic benefits to thousands of North American communities. They are also key to helping mitigate climate change due to carbon sequestration, and promoting biodiversity compared to other land uses.

Forest products such as paper can support a vibrant and renewable forest cycle that can be sustainably managed for the long-term.

http://www.twosidesna.org/US/Paper-grows-trees..quite-fast?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Paper%20grows%20treesquite%20fast%202017-03-15%20123055&utm_content=Paper%20grows%20treesquite%20fast%202017-03-15%20123055+CID_98cb3fa5cd36f89ca7bbea30b1fed208&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%20more

From Tree to Tipoff: the Final Four Floor

From deep in a Michigan forest to the University of Phoenix Stadium in Arizona, the floor at the Men's Final Four has completed a cross-country journey, lasting nearly five months.

Harvesting began in a 24,000-acre forest where foresters selected 500 sugar maples. Using a tanklike machine with rollers and chainsaws, the trees were sustainably harvested and chopped into as many 8-foot pieces as possible.

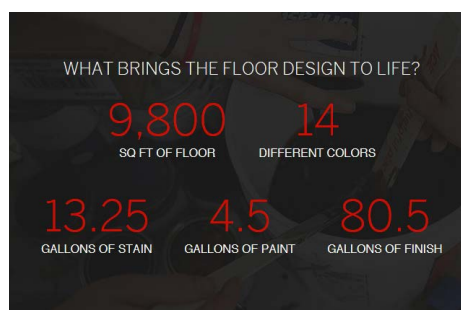
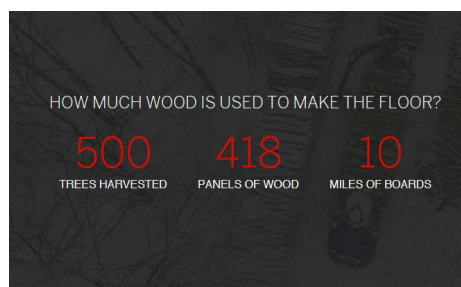
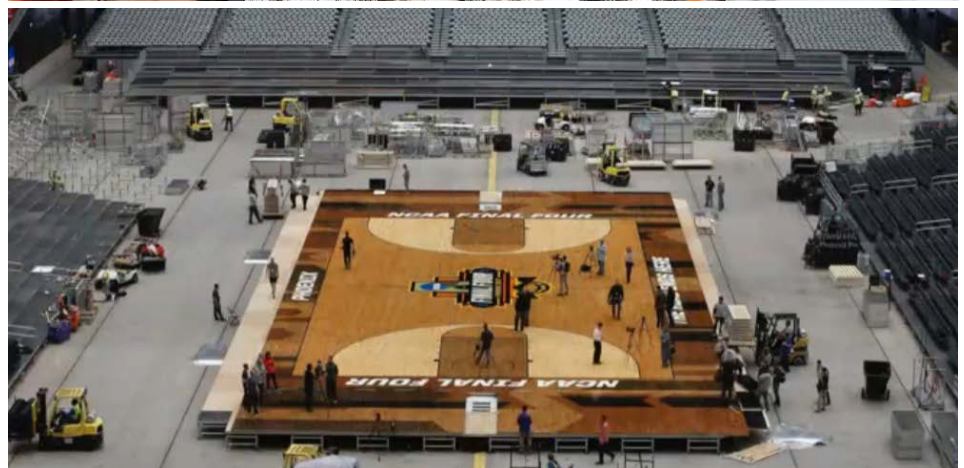
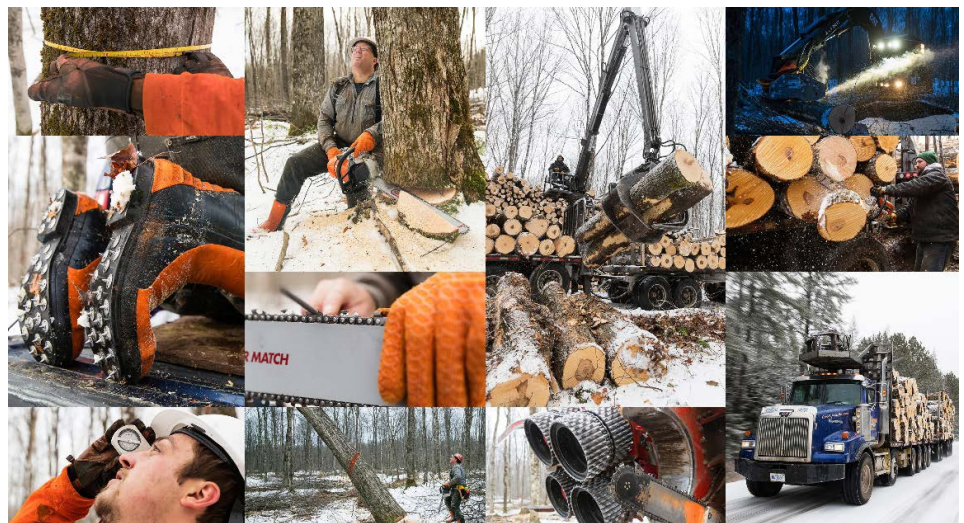
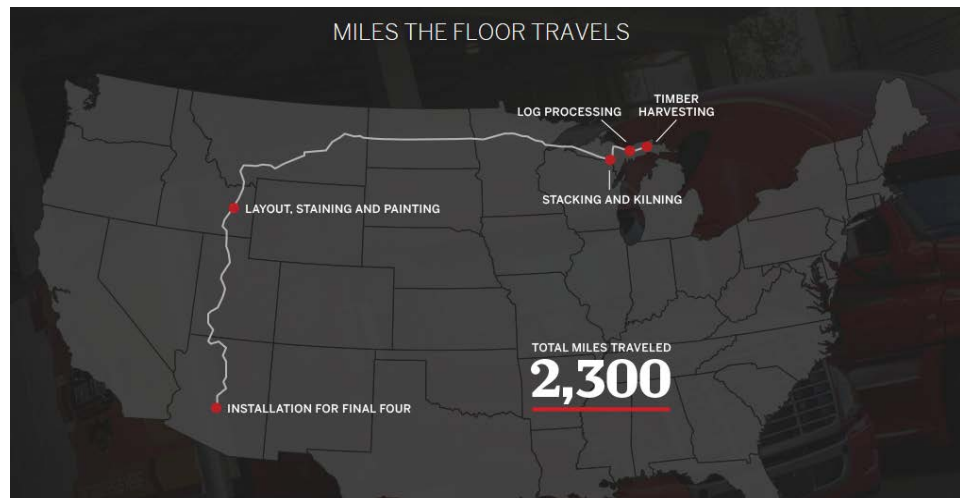
Then the floor panels were created in a Michigan mill. Trees were debarked, cut to planks and dried. To create the strongest floor, boards were staggered, like building an oversized floor at a home.

Layout, painting and staining began. Planks were shipped to Idaho, sanded and measured. The floor became a giant paint-by-numbers picture. Every inch was stained, and, using NCAA graphics as stencils, the floor was painted.

Arriving on two 18-wheelers, the floor is assembled in Glendale using a pin-and-hole system. The floor was then altered to accommodate the sidelines and baselines. Then it's time for basketball.

Overall, the project took 125 workers 144 days to complete the floor from forest to floor.

http://www.espn.com/espn/feature/story/_/id/18985386/from-tree-tipoff



Congratulations to the University of South Carolina's women's basketball team on winning the National Championship and to the men's team on making the Final Four!



King of the Orchards and Banjo

When it comes to heights, Niederhof Forestry Center Seed Orchard Manager Chris King would rather stay away from them.

However, when his job calls for him to get on a scissor lift to work on trees, King is more than glad to get the job done. In March he performed controlled mass pollination for the first time at Niederhof, which required him to raise a lift about 30 feet to inject pollen into the bagged female pine flowers.

"I don't really like heights, so it was a challenge," King said with a laugh. "You kind of get a different perspective of life when you are 25 or 30 feet up in the air working all day, but I like doing things that either give life or encourage life. We took pollen from one of our very best third-cycle orchard selections and used it to pollenate a couple of our superior selections. Through this process we are actually helping improve the genetic

quality to try to maximize the gains for the landowners."

King, who has been with the Forestry Commission for 32 years, is responsible for a wide variety of duties that change based on the season. He manages the seed orchard with a goal of maximizing seed production.

While he enjoys all aspects of his job, King's favorite duties are grafting new orchards and processing seed.

"I love the process of grafting, caring for the grafts and seeing the grafts take, grow and develop," King said. "I also like the seed processing aspect, collecting the cones, caring for the cones, processing them to obtain the seeds and then processing the seeds. It's a pretty detailed operation and very fulfilling."



Chris sprays pollen into the bag on a pine in the third-generation orchard.



Chris, with daughter Rebecca, play banjo and guitar during church services.

King always knew he'd end up working in the natural resources field. He grew up at the Walhalla National Fish Hatchery in Oconee County. His grandfather Chris helped build the facility in the 1930s, and his father, L.C., worked there for more than 20 years.

"Most of my childhood was spent living there on the hatchery. I actually have a female brown trout from the hatchery. I think it was 15 pounds, 12 ounces," King recalled. "I loved living in such a beautiful part of the world. I've always enjoyed nature and wildlife. I've just



Chris and wife Tracy took ballroom dancing classes a few years ago.

always wanted to do something in the natural resources sphere.”

King received his first opportunity to enter the field in 1983 when he accepted a job at the Forestry Commission’s old Piedmont Nursery in Oconee County. He worked there a year before being hired for a classified position and has been extremely happy working for the agency ever since.

In his spare time, you’ll find King serving as a part-time United Methodist pastor for a four-church charge in the Walterboro District, including Lodge, St. James, Wesley Chapel and Zion.

King also has a passion for playing the banjo. He asked for his first one for Christmas when he was 14 and learned how to play by sound instead of reading music.



Chris with his dog, Fred, in the orchard.

“That’s one of the best stress relievers available,” he said. “When I’m really stressed or burdened, I go to a quiet place and pull the banjo out, and it’s amazing how that helps.”

The highlight of his banjo-playing days occurred when he was invited to play with a group at the 1982 World’s Fair in Knoxville, Tenn. While at the fair, King was asked to serve as an instructor for a banjo camp with an Irish banjo player and legendary bluegrass artist Ralph Stanley.

“It was a once-in-a-lifetime thing and was a lot of fun. Those were two well-known quantities, and I was a ‘who is that,’” King quipped.

King and his wife, Tracy, have been married for 32 years and have two grown children, Lewis and Rebecca. The couple enjoys the privacy of living on Niederhof Forestry Center and loves spending time together, including going on walks with their dog, Fred, or as King says it, “letting Fred walk us.” King says his wife is also a talented cook who loves researching and trying different recipes.



Chris scoops bad pine seeds out while processing seeds in March.

“I love everything that she fixes,” he said. “I’m really happy when she fries some country ham and cooks a pot of collards and some black-eyed peas and maybe some cornbread or biscuits. If I can have something like that, all is right in the world.”

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

Job Title: **RE-ADVERTISEMENT - Forestry Technician II (Timber)**

Closing Date/Time: Continuous

Agency Hiring Range: Min: \$26,989.00 Max:\$26,989.00

Job Type: FTE - Full-Time

Location: Sumter County, South Carolina

Normal Work Schedule: Monday - Friday (8:30 - 5:00)

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

THIS IS A RE-ADVERTISEMENT. PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT RE-APPLY. YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS POSTING. Under direct supervision, assists in managing the timber, wildlife, and public on Manchester State Forest. Assists with forest management activities including but not limited to prescribed burning, wildfire suppression, timber cruising, timber marking, wildlife and recreation management, and general maintenance. Assists with forest product sale preparation to include establishment of sale boundaries, timber and pinestraw sales and evaluations. Assists in performing forest inventory and inspects completed forest activities. Assists in directing forest management operations such as logging operations, forestry best management

MINIMUM AND ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

A high school diploma and two (2) years experience in forestry management. An Associate Degree in forestry or natural resources may be substituted for the required work experience. Must pass initial physical fitness test that requires a two (2) mile walk carrying a 25 lb pack in 30 minutes. Firefighter registration with the State Fire Marshal’s Office and criminal background check is required.

Human Resources

Regional Health Screenings

Below is a list of 2017 regional screening dates coordinated by PEBA, for retirees and employees who have missed a screening held at their own workplace. These regional screenings should not be used as a substitute for hosting a screening at one of our work locations. The Columbia Office will host a screening later this year and other regional locations also are planning screenings. Before signing up for one of the screenings below, please contact the administrative staff/supervisor to determine if a regional screening is scheduled at your location.

2017 Regional Screening Dates Set

As part of PEBA's value-based benefits, the preventive screening is offered at no cost to employees, retirees, COBRA subscribers and their covered spouses if their primary coverage is the Standard Plan or Savings Plan. The screening includes:

- A health risk appraisal
- Height and weight measurements
- Blood pressure check

After the screening, members will receive a confidential report with their results and recommendations for improving their health.

Registration forms for regional screenings are posted on PEBA's homepage (<http://www.peba.sc.gov/>) under Upcoming Events online one month prior to the screening.

2017 Regional Screenings

April 12-13	Columbia	August 3	Charleston
May 18	Spartanburg	August 17	Greenwood
June 15	Greenville	September 13-14	Columbia
June 22	Hampton County	October 12	Rock Hill
July 13	Florence	November 16	Darlington
July 28	Conway	December 1	Anderson

Human Resources

- Lynn Rivers

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

Job Title: Forest Inventory and Analysis - Forester I

Closing Date/Time: 04/14/17 11:59 PM

Agency Hiring Range: Min: \$33,853.00 Max: \$33,853.00

Job Type: FTE - Full-Time **Location:** Colleton County, South Carolina

Normal Work Schedule: Monday - Friday (8:30 - 5:00)

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

Records forest inventory and health monitoring data on forest inventory plots with a degree of accuracy as required by the U.S. Forest Service. Works on a two-person forestry-crew locating forest inventory plots and recording inventory and health monitoring data. Assists in determining ownership and obtaining permission from the owner to enter property where plots are located.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This position office is located in Walterboro, SC.

MINIMUM AND ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

A bachelor's degree in forestry from a college or university accredited by the Society of American Foresters. Must successfully pass the U.S. Forest Service Forest, Forest Inventory and Analysis certification field exam within the first year of employment. Applicants are required to attach a college/university transcript.

Employee Service Awards



SERVICE AWARDS FOR MARCH

Employee's Name	Position	Location	State Service
Buddy Burr	Equipment Operator	Sand Hills State Forest	10 years

First Official SCFC Drone Use

Having passed the Federal Aviation Administration's aeronautical knowledge exam for small unmanned aeronautical systems (sUAS) in February, Chief Pilot Sam Anderson and Public Information Coordinator Michelle Johnson are licensed to pilot drones for the agency.

Shortly after "earning her wings," Michelle accompanied BMP foresters Herb Nicholson and Holly Welch on a site visit to two harvesting operations with SMZs in Laurens County to capture still shots and video, which will be used in BMP-related publications and monitoring operations.

Congratulations, Michelle on receiving your remote pilot certificate and Sam on extending your pilot certificate to cover 14 CFR part 61!



Environmental Education Coordinator Matt Schnabel and Assistant Environmental Education Coordinator Beth Foley watch as Public Information Coordinator Michelle Johnson flies the sUAS at Long Shoals.



The DJI Phantom 3 Professional quadcopter flies over Long Shoals Wayside Park at Poe Creek.



Piedmont BMP Forester Holly Welch and BMP Coordinator Herb Nicholson assist in the sUAS flight over a Laurens County streamside management zone.

25 Common American Customs Considered Offensive in Other Countries (Part 14)

MSN Business Insider

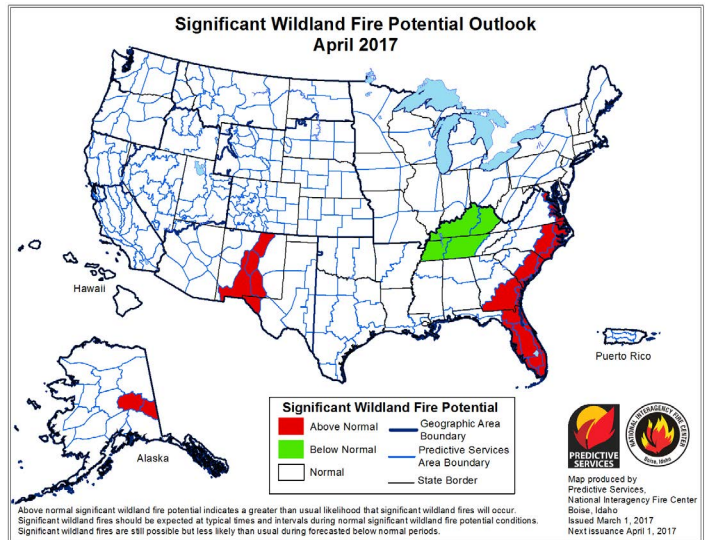
There are a number of customs and gestures that Americans use without thinking twice. But when traveling abroad, they will not only out you as a tourist, but could get you in hot water in other countries. Here are some of the most common American customs that are seen as offensive elsewhere.

14. Keeping Your Shoes On

While you probably think you're doing the world a favor by keeping your socks under wraps, in most Asian and Caribbean cultures it is expected that you take your shoes off when entering someone's home.

Fire Weather Outlook

A typical transition of fire season activity is expected this spring beginning with the southern tier of the country. Fire activity will increase across portions of the southern plains and along the Atlantic Coast from the Carolinas south through Florida where the heavy loading of dry fuels coupled with warmer and drier than normal conditions is expected to create a potential for above normal fire activity. The increase in fire activity will be most noticed during high wind and low humidity weather events brought on by the seasonal transition from winter to spring. Other locations across the nation will see an increase in pre-green up fire activity as well, but this is not unusual. Southeastern Georgia and Florida may show a more significant increase in fire activity due to the emergence of long term drought conditions. Wetter than normal conditions across the Lower Mississippi River and Tennessee River Valleys are expected to lead to below normal fire potential during March. Look for the areas with below normal potential to be scaled back to mainly Tennessee and Kentucky from April onward as precipitation amounts received decrease to normal levels. Entering the latter periods of the outlook, look for fire potential as drought lingers.



Southern Area: A potential for above normal activity will be focused across primarily two areas: the west, including Oklahoma and Texas, and areas along the Atlantic coast from the coastal plains of Virginia south through Florida. Below normal conditions are expected to remain across western Kentucky and Tennessee through the outlook period as well. Elsewhere, normal significant fire potential is expected. Areas along the coasts of the Carolinas and the coastal plains of Virginia will return to normal fire potential by May and June.

The current drought outlook indicates that the drought is continuing to improve. Areas around Oklahoma and northwest Arkansas and the Southern Appalachians into northern Alabama are likely to see drought conditions alleviated. Expect average to above average rainfall across a large area of the central Southern Area states in March. Fuels are on a drying trend in areas of Florida and most southeastern areas. A longer than normal fire season is anticipated across Florida, Texas and Oklahoma due to current drought and fuel conditions brought on by warm and dry weather which should continue into the spring. Increasing lightning activity in May and June should produce a higher ignition threat for Florida. Some precipitation deficits still remain in the Piedmont and mountains of the Southern Area. Currently, fuels fall within normal seasonal conditions across the Appalachian Mountains.

Data indicates that rainfall activity will increase for a large area the southern states. This should lead to an improving environment for green-up with average to above average soil moisture conditions, as well as lower trending fire potential. This should limit increasing, persistent, or recurring periods of elevated fire danger to remain in the far west, deep southeast and possibly Virginia. A warmer and drier weather pattern and weakening frontal activity should produce drier moisture patterns and longer periods of higher fire danger during the period before green up in April. For Florida, total acres burned historically peaks in the May and June timeframe but should be earlier due to the anticipated warmer and drier weather pattern. An earlier than average green up should be a factor in muting critical potential. For April and May, decreasing activity levels are expected; except when warm and dry patterns occur and accelerate drying in the grasses. This could lead to some shorter periods of elevated fire potential when the seasonal increase in lightning activity allows for increased ignitions and initial attack. This will be especially true for Florida and southern Georgia.

Current Fire Numbers for South Carolina

MONTH AND YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS 5 AND 10-YEAR AVERAGE

Time Period	MARCH		JULY-MARCH		FISCAL YEAR	
	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES	FIRES	ACRES
5 Year Average	327	2,451	1,259	7,422	1,646	9,744
10 Year Average	422	3,555	1,615	9,591	2,162	14,889
Current FY ¹	554	7,258	1,780	24,162	1,780	24,162

¹To date for current fiscal year

TREES IN SONG

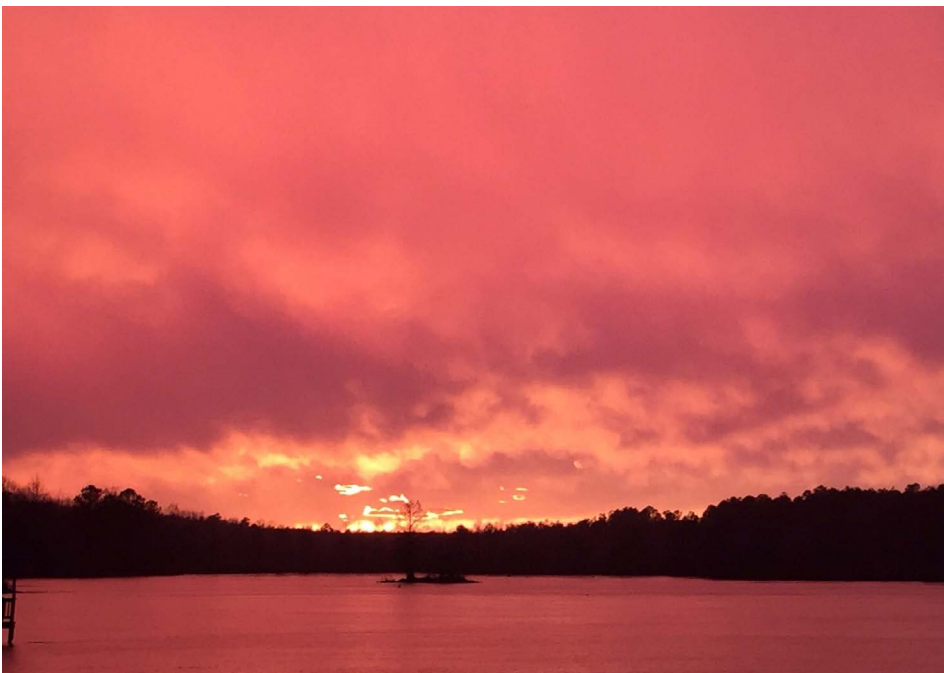
*When through the woods, and forest glades I
wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down, from lofty mountain
grandeur,
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.*

Song: "How Great Thou Art"

Poem written by Carl Gustav Boberg adapted by Stuart K. Hine 1949, many recorded versions exist
Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXQpDDcrN-w>

Can you think of a song with
tree- or forestry-related lyrics?
Let us know, and we'll share it
with everyone.

Photo of the Month



Coastal Administrative Assistant Vicki Irick sent in this photo of a beautiful sunset taken on the driveway/dam at her house in Orangeburg County.



Communications & Public Information staff Justin Holt, Matt Schnabel, Beth Foley, and Doug Wood take in the beauty of Long Shoals Wayside Park at Poe Creek.

Quote of the Month

*Your time is limited,
so don't waste it living
someone else's life.
Don't let the noise of
others' opinions drown
out you own inner
voice.*

Steve Jobs

Please send in your
photos or news to
Michelle Johnson at
mjohnson@scfc.gov.